



**Fw: West Lake Superfund Site - email from MO coalition to investigate foul odor from the LF**

Cecilia Tapia to: Dan Gravatt

10/30/2012 10:39 AM

Cc: DeAndre Singletary, Audrey Asher, Hood.Rich

Dan can you coordinate with MDNR to determine what's going on.

Thanks  
Cecilia

----- Forwarded by Cecilia Tapia/R7/USEPA/US on 10/30/2012 10:38 AM -----

From: <esmith@moenviron.org>  
To: Cecilia Tapia/R7/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: Dan Gravatt/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Audrey Asher/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Debbie Kring/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, aaron.schmidt@dnr.mo.gov, "Shawn Muenks" <shawn.muenks@dnr.mo.gov>, "Ramona Huckstep" <ramona.huckstep@dnr.mo.gov>  
Date: 10/29/2012 07:20 PM  
Subject: RE: Fw: West Lake Superfund Site - response to MO Coalition for the Environment

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Is this on the EPA and MO DNR radar?

<http://www.kmov.com/home/Ray-Preston--News-4-176325371.html>

by Ray Preston / News 4

[KMOV.com](http://KMOV.com)

Posted on October 29, 2012 at 4:49 PM

Updated today at 5:02 PM

BRIDGETON, Mo ([KMOV.com](http://KMOV.com)) -- News 4 viewers reported a terrible smell coming from a landfill in Bridgeton. After investigation it seems the problem may be more than just a foul odor.

The Pattonville Fire Department says what's causing the smell is an underground problem that's growing and there are worries it may reach radioactive waste buried nearby.

The landfill is on St. Charles Rock Road, west of Lambert Airport. It's operated by Republic Services, a company based in Phoenix.

Residents complained not only about a terrible odor, but also that there was something in the air that burned their eyes, causing them headaches.

What's happening underground at the Bridgeton landfill is known as "subsurface oxidation." It means that what's below the surface is decomposing, which creates heat.

Republic has been drilling wells to allow gases and vapors to escape, but the Pattonville Fire Department says temperature readings on the well-heads show a dramatic increase over a three-month period.

And it's unclear just what is churning below the surface.

"The things that we would be concerned with would be production of toxic gasses or flammable gasses," said Assistant Chief Matt LaVanchy.

Some say it's an eclectic concoction made up of everything from household garbage to industrial chemicals to jet fuel that was dumped there years ago.

The landfill is in an old limestone quarry, which means it's surrounded by a natural barrier. The heat and vapors are currently growing and moving southwest, but LaVanchy says he's concerned because on the north end of the landfill there is radioactive waste and there is nothing to act as a barrier.

Ed Smith  
Safe Energy Director  
Missouri Coalition for the Environment

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Superfund

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Fw: West Lake Superfund Site - response to MO Coalition for the Environment  
From: [Tapia.Cecilia@epa.gov](mailto:Tapia.Cecilia@epa.gov)  
Date: Wed, October 24, 2012 1:01 pm  
To: [esmith@moenviron.org](mailto:esmith@moenviron.org)  
Cc: [Gravatt.Dan@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Gravatt.Dan@epamail.epa.gov), [Asher.Audrey@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Asher.Audrey@epamail.epa.gov), [Kring.Debbie@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Kring.Debbie@epamail.epa.gov), [aaron.schmidt@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:aaron.schmidt@dnr.mo.gov)

Mr. Smith,

This is in response to your October 17, 2012 email to EPA and MDNR. We at EPA believe that it's premature to hold a public information session at this time. EPA would not have any new information to report. We have not received the validated data package from the PRPs on the recent groundwater sampling event. Once we receive the package, we will need time to conduct our own review and validation to assure that the data is reliable.

In addition, EPA will be conducting gamma surveys at the site in the upcoming months. They have not been scheduled yet.

Once we have reviewed the groundwater data and have conducted the gamma surveys, we will hold a public availability session to present the sampling results to all interested parties.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



*Cecilia Tapia*  
*Director Superfund Division*  
*U.S. EPA Region 7*  
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**Subject:** West Lake Superfund Site

Hello EPA and Missouri DNR folks,

On October 9, I sent an email to EPA Region 7 informing them I intend to have a public information session event on the status of the West Lake Superfund Site in mid-November. I included that I was willing to forgo this meeting to help EPA secure a site for a public event to release the results of the latest groundwater sampling at West Lake if the EPA knew the results would be available around this time-frame. I have not heard back from EPA and thus moving forward with a public information session.

I have secured a room at the Machinists Union Hall in Bridgeton for November 13 (12365 Saint Charles Rock Road Bridgeton, MO 63044). I was able to finalize the site location yesterday and I am working on finalizing a time for the event, likely in the evening after folks get off work to increase attendance. I'm sending this email because I would like EPA and DNR to participate or have a presence during the meeting. I think it is vitally important that people know what's going on at the West Lake Superfund Site.

I'm willing to be flexible on the format if there is interest from the EPA and/or DNR participation. I'm willing to have one on one conversations or convene a conference call to work out the details. I want the event to be open to the public and media.

Kay Drey and MCE's executive director, Kathleen Logan Smith, are copied on this email.

Please let me know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. You all are the first people I am inviting/informing of the event.

Thanks,  
Ed

Ed Smith  
Safe Energy Director  
Missouri Coalition for the Environment  
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